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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 17 March 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires, a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit the text, in English, of a statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine concerning the situation on the territory of the Republic of Moldova, issued on 16 March 1992 (see annex).

I request you to circulate the text of the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly, under item 69 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Victor A. KRYZHANIVSKIY
Chargé d'affaires, a.i.
Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the United Nations

* A/47/50.

ANNEX

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, issued on 16 March 1992

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine is receiving from different sources information that on the territory of the Republic of Moldova, in particular in the Pridnistrovje areas, adjacent to the state frontiers of Ukraine, lately there have taken place events, the character and dynamics of which cannot but summon deep concern in Ukraine. These developments gain an ever more perilous complexion and, what is particularly dangerous, they threaten to extend beyond the borders of the Republic of Moldova.

It has become known that the first refugees from the Pridnistrovje areas had appeared on the territory of the Odessa Oblast of Ukraine. They have been testifying that real combat actions are taking place in the area of the city of Dubossary, with many killed and wounded. As a result of the heightening of the conflict, combat actions in some areas have become indiscriminate, and contributing to sufferings of civilians, including foreign citizens. Taking advantage of the fact that the Ukrainian-Moldovan state border is not properly guarded, the opposing sides, in some cases, use direct transportation lines, passing through the territory of Ukraine between the towns of Moldova, thus ignoring the legal orders of the representatives of the agencies of internal affairs of Ukraine.

As a result, an extremely tense situation is developing in the Odessa Oblast areas of Ukraine which border Moldova, and everything points to it becoming an emergency.

In this connection, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine is empowered to state that the events in the neighbouring Republic of Moldova cannot be disregarded since they resulted in the violation of the state border of Ukraine by military formations, and thus became a menace to the security of sovereign and independent Ukraine, and threaten the involvement of some of its border areas in this conflict.

Similar acts, irrespective of their initiators, are a flagrant violation of the United Nations Charter as well as of the Helsinki Final Act principles relating to the inviolability of frontiers and territorial integrity of states. Strictly observing these and other fundamental principles of international law in its relations with neighbouring Moldova, Ukraine has full right to expect the same position from the side of the Republic of Moldova. Taking into account the fact that the state border/of Ukraine/was trespassed without the knowledge and participation of the official authorities of the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine warns all the participants of the conflict in Pridnistrovje of the inadmissibility of using Ukrainian territory for their purposes.

In this connection, Ukraine reserves the right to undertake proper measures in order to provide for its national security.

Inasmuch as the escalation of tension in Pridnistrovje is taking place in the areas neighbouring Ukraine and inhabited by hundreds of thousands of citizens of the Republic of Moldova of Ukrainian descent, Ukraine cannot but express its stance on this conflict, on the whole.

News of the escalation of armed clashes, including the use of artillery, causes great concern and worry. This situation, which has resulted in victims among innocent civilians, as well as destruction, demands the immediate undertaking of measures to stop combat actions by all sides of the conflict. Any attempts to solve this problem by military means are doomed to failure. The example of Nagorny Karabakh is proof of this.

Ukraine calls upon the sides to the conflict to immediately solve all disputable problems by political means, with the aim of stopping bloodshed, stabilizing the situation, eliminating the reasons for the conflict, strengthening the atmosphere of trust and mutual understanding. Particular caution and balanced approach to the conflict should be manifested by the CIS Armed Forces located in the region.

The principles of the United Nations Charter, Helsinki Final Act and documents, signed within the framework of the CIS should form the basis of a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

The sides to the conflict could use the good offices of the authoritative mechanisms of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, and, in event of their consent and good will, Ukraine could become a mediator in its settlement.